



SoLiS

Newsletter of the
Southeast Library System

December 2014

SOWINGS

At the start of 2015 the Regional Library Systems will have the legal part of their reorganizations wrapped up. That doesn't mean all the changes are done though. There are still lots of things that will continue to be worked on.

First off, let's talk about what isn't changing for SELS.

The board has decided to keep the Southeast Library System name. Our office will remain where it is, and both Wendy Mackey & I will stay on staff. Our current services, such as book kit lending and the journal article request service will continue as they are for the near future. We will continue with our mission of promoting libraries and educating and facilitating networking for librarians in our member libraries.

Now what will change?

The biggest change is the official service area. Cass County will join Three Rivers Library System to the north, and SELS will see Merrick, Polk, Butler, Saunders, Clay, & Nuckolls counties join our system. We will be looking at the services that our new libraries currently enjoy in their systems and see if we can bring some of those into SELS.

We have added representatives from the former Northeast, Eastern, & Republican Valley Library Systems who previously served our new libraries onto our board to help with moving forward.

You will see this newsletter begin to change as Wendy & I have some ideas on some new recurring features you'll start seeing next month. We are also changing our logo, as you'll see further in this issue.

You should see a few more continuing education opportunities next year than we had this year, and we are working on making scholarships available so members of SELS can go to other conferences. We are also examining ways to reach out to the school, academic, special & institutional libraries in our area a bit more as well. If you have any ideas or suggestions of services for these groups, please let me know!

So, while the reorganization is finished in a legal sense on January 1, the process will continue for a while. Please contact me if you have any questions or suggestions!

Scott Childers, SELS Executive Director

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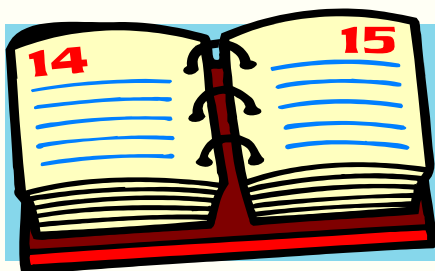
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CALENDAR

December 2014

December 10th—Birthday of Melvil Dewey, 1851-1931

December 17th—Wright Brothers Day

December 19th—CASTL Meeting at Kilgore Memorial Library, York

December 21st—Crossword Puzzle Day

December 24th-26th—SELS Office Closed for Christmas

December 30th—Bacon Day

January 1st—New Year's Day, SELS Office Closed

January 2nd—Science Fiction Day

January 9th—CASTL Meeting at Alice M. Farr Library, Aurora

January 13th—Accreditation Training Session, Seward Memorial Library ([see more](#))

January 19th—Martin Luther King Day, SELS Office Closed

January 23rd—Handwriting Day

January 29th—Puzzle Day

January 30th—International Fun at Work Day

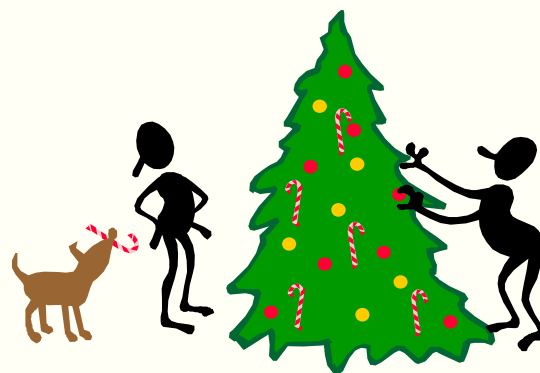


Photo of the Month

This is the third annual Christmas Book Tree at Central City Public Library. It's their tallest book tree to date!

Photo by Sara Lee.



Season's greetings from
the SELS office!

CASTL Wrap-Up

Upcoming CASTL Meetings

December 19
York

January 9
Aurora

February 12
Shickley

March 19
Hebron

April 17
Wahoo

May 22
Beatrice

June 11
Syracuse

November's CASTL meeting was held on the 13th, at Gilbert Public Library in Friend, hosted by Jackie Larsen. The meeting began with the traditional round-robin discussion; several libraries have been fine-tuning their strategic plans, while others are cleaning house and doing some weeding now that things have gotten quieter. There was some discussion about how to handle requests from authors who'd like to give book talks. If the author is interesting to patrons, has applicable material, or is relevant to the town, they may be worth consideration. It's always an option to ask for a flyer or a copy of the book.

In the afternoon, Deb Weber of the Nebraska Department of Revenue—Charitable Gaming division gave an overview of Nebraska's charitable gaming laws. For libraries, the best option for bingo would be "special event bingo", which requires a \$15 permit. Bingo can be offered as part of another event, and is exempt from bingo tax, reporting, & age restrictions. There are some key differences between lotteries and raffles that must be taken into consideration—lotteries have cash prizes, and raffles have merchandise prizes. As long as lottery prizes are kept under \$1000 and raffle merchandise is not valued higher than \$5000, there are no reporting or tax requirements. Winners can be determined by a drawing or a rubber-duck race. For more information, feel free to contact Deb Weber at 402-471-5944, or Mary M. Gropp at 402-326-3198, or check out the Charitable Gaming website at www.revenue.ne.gov/gaming.

Accreditation Training Session—January 13th

There will be an accreditation training session on January 13th for those libraries who will be applying for accreditation in 2015. Scott Childers, executive director of SELS, along with Richard Miller of the Nebraska Library Commission, will be presenting information about strategic plans, and what to expect during the application process. Both library staff and board members are welcome to attend. There is no cost to attend this session.

- January 13th @ Seward Memorial Library
- Registration open at 9:15am, Session from 9:30am to 12:30pm
- No lunch will be provided—refreshments will be available
- Please RSVP by January 9th

To RSVP, send an email to selsne@gmail.com, or call the SELS office anytime at 402-467-6188.



News Around the System

Driver's Education Resources Now Available at York

By Deb Robertson Kilgore Memorial Library in York has added [Driving-Tests.org](http://driving-tests.org) to its online resources. This resource, developed by several national partnerships including the Governors Highway Safety Association and the National Safety Council, provides online practice driver's education tests. Simply go to <http://driving-tests.org/library/> to apply for free access to this resource for your library. The link they provide to each library is specific to our state and is branded with your library name. Applications for the pro-bono program for non-profits must be submitted before 12:00 PM EST on January 15, 2015. If accepted, all fees will be waived for the duration of your participation. To view the resource through York's instance go to <http://libraries.ne.gov/york/e-resources/#training> and click on the Driving Tests link. If anyone would like to learn more they can contact Deb Robertson at drobertson@cityofyork.net.



Crete Welcomes New Librarian

By Susan Church

The Crete Public Library recently hired Lindsey Weber Riskowski and we are very glad to have her! Her art degree is evident here in this amazingly gorgeous Christmas Book Tree. Created from book sale books, the "tree" stands about 5' tall. It is a very festive addition to our decorations this year!



Upcoming Basic Skills Courses

Registration will be open soon for the next set of basic skills courses, offered through the Nebraska Library Commission. To see the full calendar & register for classes, [click here](#). Here's what's coming up next:

<u>Dates of Class</u>	<u>Topic</u>	<u>Registration Open</u>
1/5/15—1/16/15	Customer Service	11/28/14—12/23/14
1/26/15—2/6/15	Communication	12/19/14—1/16/15
2/23/15—3/6/15	Reference	1/16/15—2/13/15

Concordia University Hosts Board Game Night

By Philip Hendrickson

November was the second time this fall that the monthly board game night at Concordia University's Link Library attracted over 60 attendees. Avid gamers, casual players and newbies get together the second Saturday of each month to enjoy face-to-face competition and socialization around board games. Game night includes a snack potluck and is open from 6:00 pm to midnight. All are welcome to attend & join in the fun!

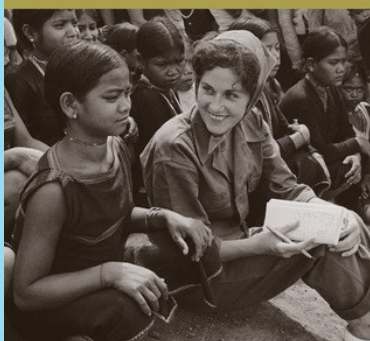


Three Concordia students play Voluspa, a Norse-themed game of strategically laying tiles into rows and columns.

BEVERLY DEEPE KEEVER

Death Zones & Darling Spies

Seven Years of Vietnam War Reporting



2015 One Book, One Nebraska

Next year's selection for One Book, One Nebraska is *Death Zones & Darling Spies: Seven Years of Vietnam War Reporting*, by Beverly Deepe Kever, who is originally from Hebron. Having been raised as a farm girl in Nebraska, she earned bachelors and masters degrees in journalism, and went on to be a Vietnam War correspondent for seven years, becoming the longest-serving reporter of the war. She ultimately earned a Pulitzer prize nomination for her coverage in Vietnam.

Death Zones & Darling Spies is available through the University of Nebraska Press, as well as other booksellers. 2015 marks ten years of the One Book, One Nebraska program, sponsored by the Nebraska Center for the Book, Humanities Nebraska, and the Nebraska Library Commission.

Resources for Immigration Information

By Mary Sauers, Nebraska Library Commission

As a result of President Obama's immigration speech, libraries may be receiving more questions about contacting Immigration Services. Please take a moment to make note of, bookmark, or post these sources for information:

[USCIS Nebraska Field Office: Omaha](#)

USCIS, 1717 Avenue H, Omaha, NE 68110
402-633-4000

[USCIS National Customer Service Center](#)

1 (800) 375-5283
1 (800) 767-1833 (TTY)



Financial Ed in Fairbury

By Karen Fox



Michelle Holliday, a local investment advisor, gave a presentation on filing for Social Security and Medicare benefits to a group of community members at the Fairbury Public Library in early November.

Enroll for Journal Articles

Professional journal articles are now available via email for SELS members! There are several publications available, and you can enroll to receive an email with the table of contents whenever there's a new issue. From there, simply request the articles you'd like, and we'll get them to you as soon as possible. To enroll in a journal, send an email to selsne@gmail.com and let us know which ones you'd like to enroll in.

Available publications:

- American Libraries
- Library Journal
- Library Sparks
- Nebraska Municipal Review
- Public Libraries
- School Library Journal
- School Library Monthly



THE HOBBIT

THE BATTLE OF THE FIVE ARMIES

Private Movie Showing

Where: Edgewood Theater, Lincoln, NE

When: Saturday, Dec. 20, 9:30 a.m.
(doors open at 9:00)

Who: SELS Friends & supporters

Price: \$5.00 (by Dec. 17, \$10 after)

To reserve a seat in advance, email info@selsfriends.org
All admissions will be paid for at the door.

Earn a
door prize
entry by
making
a donation!



A Fundraiser for the
Southeast Library System Friends



Word Wall Signage on Display in Pawnee City

By Colleen Morehead

signage noun \ˈsī-nij\

1. Signs considered as a group.
2. The design or use of signs and symbols.

Signage means signs prominently displayed to direct and inform.

Pawnee City Public Library staff recently completed a word wall as signage to guide patrons to the area of in-house resources associated with Nebraska. This corner of the library houses maps, genealogy records, newspapers, microfilm, fictional works by Nebraska authors, non-fictional files associated with Nebraska authors and topics, microfilm of local newspapers, and so much more. The word wall is attractive, informative and notably visible to welcome and draw patrons to the Nebraska area of the library.



An Introduction to Southeast Library System (SELS) Services

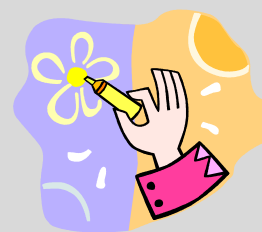
With all the changes going on, it seems like a good time to introduce SELS to our new librarians, and to give a refresher on our services to our current ones.

- **Consulting:** Got a question on policy, best practices, or anything else regarding running a library? Give us a call and we'll point you toward the right answer.
- **Journal Article Request Service:** Get professional literature on request through email. See the blurb on [page 6](#) for more information.
- **Book Kits:** We have a small selection of book kits that you can borrow. We try to get titles the Library Commission hasn't already purchased, with a mix of adult & YA titles.
- **Training:** We offer many training sessions throughout the year of different types, both multi-session regional events and on-demand local sessions.

SELS is Looking for a Logo!

SELS is looking for a new logo and wordmark. Maybe you are the one who can create them for us! Here is what the board is looking for in a logo:

- Spotlights location in Nebraska
- Emphasizes a theme of "Connections"
- Minimal use of red in color palate, if used at all
- Identifiable at any size, and in both color and black & white
- Can be identified as library-related



Designs for the related word marks should use sans-serif, license-free fonts. There is a \$50 cash prize courtesy of the SELS Friends for whoever designs the chosen logo! If you have any questions, please contact the SELS office. Please submit any ideas by Jan 31 to selsne@gmail.com.

SELS Board Meeting Notes
October 23, 2014
Webermeier Memorial Library, Milford, NE
10:00 a.m.

Board Members Present: Becky Baker (Seward Memorial Library); Carolyn Bennett (Beatrice Public Library); Rebecca Bernthal (University of Nebraska-Lincoln); Ruth Carlock (Levitt Library, York College); Kent Munster (Clark Enersen Partners); Sabrina Riley (Union College); Dorothy Willis (Pawnee City Public Library); and Glenda Willnerd (Palmyra Memorial Library).

Also Present: Scott Childers (SELS Director); Wendy Mackey (SELS Administrative Assistant); Richard Miller (Nebraska Library Commission).

Board Members Absent: Karen Frank (Greenwood Public Library); Aimee Morlan (Weeping Water Public Library); Jan Thomsen (Alice M. Farr Library, Aurora);

Meeting was called to order by Dorothy Willis at 10:09 a.m.

I. NLC Grant Agreement (informational/discussion)

There be a new arrangement between SELS and the Nebraska Library Commission (NLC) along with the reorganization in going from 6 to 4 systems. The task force met several times and made good suggestions. The Commission decided to go with 4 systems. This is the first time in about 10 years that a new agreement has been drawn up. The copy we were sent is pretty much in final form, but Richard will take comments back. Dorothy emphasized that this is an agreement which would mean that both sides are coming together, so we would like them to consider any comments we make. Previously the system has worked with the commission on a contract basis. There is a subtle difference in the approach between an agreement and a contract. There are different regulations between contracts and grant agreements, and this should be easier to maintain. NLC does not want to be highly bureaucratic. Richard went over the comments that were made by the Eastern system, then SELS went over the agreement, page by page, making comments to Richard.

See attachment.

1 a. ii. Remove “public”. All libraries need accreditation.

There was a concern that SELS members might have a different concept when hearing the term “grant”. Could we remove “Grant” and just call it an agreement? The federal government gives NLC a grant. So if they use that grant money somewhere else, it is also considered a grant. Could there be a reference to federal such as “CFR”? Or could it be called a Service agreement instead of a Grant agreement?

a.vi. NLC is still asking for money from the state to fund the Edge Initiative. So the Edge Initiative is still a little uncertain. It is an easier sell to come up with categories to increase state aid rather than asking for a larger grant. The Edge Initiative is a set of bench marks that would be applicable to most libraries.

Page 2

viii. NLC decided the Pioneer Consortium ILS is the best way to move toward a statewide consortium. They want to support this and do some training on it. The wording brings up some questions since some libraries use other systems such as Apollo, etc. and the Pioneer Consortium uses KOHA. Should we be promoting a certain product? Pioneer is a group of libraries that are using one type of software. The Consortium could use something else besides KOHA. In this case, it is not as much a product as a consortium. Overdrive was mentioned as an example, but it is different. Overdrive is part of the Commission. The Commission has been working with Pioneer for the last 5 or 6 years and has given them grants as well as helped with software development. There was a question about it being under part a.

b. is too open ended. Change “determined” to “as agreed upon”. Change System to “System Board”.

d. “Within the regional area”. We have primary responsibility for our region. Add the word “primarily within the regional

area”.

f. Add an ex-official representative.

Page 3

h. Vacancy savings can be used to pay for needs we haven’t been able to cover. Federal and State money is to pay for specific things. Vacancy savings could be used to cover needs if the system communicates with the Commission about the needs they want to cover and make an agreement. Proposals can be made as part of the budget.

k. SELS does get funding from other sources. The suggestion was made to add an asset trail to track money spent from other sources. The amount of money we get from other sources is probably nominal. We are wanting specific wording in the agreement just in case we were given something worth \$1000 or more from someone. We would like the language of the agreement to state “with funds from this agreement” so that money from other sources wouldn’t be included.

i. Change “Prompt” to a specific time line. Suggested the wording to be “within 15 working days or sooner.”

Page 4

a. OMB ... These are due to federal government guidelines. The Commission will send pertinent documents.

Section 2 & 3 is bookkeeping and records management. It will require some adjustments for SELS to keep up with the paper-work.

b. We are wondering if our account qualifies under that. The SELS budget will be more complicated with the division of state and federal money. The Commission Business Manager is now a CPA.

The suggestion was made to capitalize titles such as Director, Business Manager, etc.

Page 5

4. The text in bold – they have never enforced too much, but it needs to be there. Add (LSTA).

d. Does the Commission really want everything? Yes.

Last paragraph – Need to add “90 days if the system decides to terminate.”

5. Was there a reason that ADA 1990 was not referenced? Richard said they would add it.

Scott asked if there was anything in the agreement that would prevent SELS from giving out sub grants such as for scholarships, small emergencies at libraries, etc. Richard doesn’t see anything that would prevent this, but he wants to ask Rod about it. SELS would like parameters telling us what we can and cannot do.

II. NLC Report

See attachment.

III. Consent Agenda

A. August 2014 Minutes

No additions or corrections.

B. Transaction Report

Rebecca moved to accept the consent agenda as it is. Sabrina seconded. The motion carried.

IV. Budget Update

Two budget reports were available – one with the new van included and one without the van. The car insurance ran higher than had been budgeted on the new van. The extra \$5 for Association Dues was for a Roundtable Wendy joined.

V. Board openings and nominations

Scott presented three scenarios of elections or appointments to fill the board vacancies for the next 3 years. Three board members have extended terms at present including Becky Baker, Karen Frank, and Jan Thomsen. Karen will not be eligible

for another term since Cass County will no longer be in the SELS area. There will be four openings in 2015, Dorothy Willis, Ruth Carlock, Rebecca Bernthal, and Sabrina Riley. Ruth will not be eligible to run again until she has had a year off due to term limits. Four will be up in 2016, Kent Munster, Carolyn Bennett, Aimee Morlan, and Glenda Willnerd. Aimee will no longer be in the SELS area. Kent and Carolyn will not be eligible to run again until having taken a year off. The Board has been working with 11 members. The bylaws state that there must be at least 9 and no more than 15 members. The 3rd option presented that was sent out seems the easiest. (The board appoints up to 6 to fill the vacant slots: a. 1 term ending in 2015 (6 months); b. 1 term ending in 2016 (1 year 6 months); c. 4 terms ending in 2017 (2 years 6 months); d. a regular election happens in 2015.) Scott has possibilities for board members from the new counties. At present we don't have a school representative. The appointed terms would start in January and new members would be invited to the December meeting. Scott has communicated with a couple of possible members in the new counties. He also has someone in mind for a 6 months commitment.

Rebecca moved that we adopt option 3. Glenda seconded. Motion passed.

The suggestion was made to hold an electronic election. Scott read the names of possible Board members to get the Board's response. A couple of other names were suggested. Becky is to check with one to see if there is any interest in serving on the Board. New counties are Clay, Nuckolls, Butler, Polk, Merrick, and Saunders.

The suggestion was made that Scott contact the people to see if they are interested, and then the Board vote by electronic ballot.

VI. Reorganization

a. Name for the System

Some suggestions were discussed. Most of the members seemed to feel that Southeast Library System described our area the best. Becky moved that we retain the Southeast Library System (SELS) as our name. Glenda seconded. Motion carried.

b. Articles of Incorporation

Becky made a motion to wave public notice on the proposed changes to the Articles of Incorporation and Carolyn seconded. Motion carried.

Scott went over the suggestions for the five article changes. Carolyn moved that we make these changes as proposed. Becky seconded. Motion carried.

c. Bylaws changes

Since the name was not changed, the changes needed in the Bylaws were minimal. Article II is to remove Cass County and add in the new counties to be effective Jan 1. Kent moved and Glenda seconded that we make these changes to Article II. Motion carried.

Article V, Section 4: Elections. Change the number of counties from 15 to 20. Remove the term System Board and have it read "with a slate of candidates to be voted on by the SELS membership."

Becky moved and Ruth seconded that we make these changes to Article V, Section 4. Motion carried.

d. Budget proposal Jan – June 2015

Instead of getting a set stipend amount, Rod is asking for a budget plan. Scott was not given an estimate how much money SELS will receive. He has made a proposal and marked areas that could be changed if necessary. Scott added a Front Porch award line and a line for Collection Development and Book Kits. These expenses have come out of the miscellaneous line in the past. The book kits get used and they are different than the book kits the Commission has. There was a question about a cricket machine that could travel around. The problem with the cricket machine is the cost of the cartridges. The Equipment line is for maintenance on the copier. The amount on that line was increased to include one new piece of equipment a year. Suggestions included a mobile door scanner or barcode scanners. The suggestion was made to have a line for Circulating Equipment. Another suggestion was to add a Computer Rotation line of \$1,500. With the new budgeting requirements there will be more bookkeeping, and Scott will be out of the office more with the addition of the new counties. The proposal was made to give Wendy 5 more hours, a total of 30 hours per week. The benefits and other lines would be increased appropriately. Wendy was asked to start keeping a work log to show how long it takes to handle some of the services. Then we can determine if 30 hours are sufficient for her to complete her work or if she needs more time.

Scott will give the budget proposal to Rod. Dorothy and Scott will be available to meet with and answer questions that Rod may have. Ruth moved that we accept the budget proposal. Becky seconded. Motion carried.

VII. Executive Director Report

See attachment.

VIII. SELS Friends' Report

See attachment.

IX. Committee Meetings

No need for Committee Meetings at this time. There may need to be an Ad Hoc committee since the logo will be redone. Sabrina offered her student's help with redoing the brochure. If we have ideas for the new logo, we are to send them to Scott.

X. Committee Reports

No need for reports.

XI. Reports from around the System (if time allows)

Glenda said the Palmyra Memorial Library is accredited.

Sabrina said they are still working on purchasing new furniture. They are getting a lot of used books and have set up a permanent used book sale which brings in about \$100 a month.

Carolyn said the library in Beatrice is still under construction. The final walk through the lower level is on Oct. 29.

Becky said they are working on the new parking lot for the Seward library.

SELS: The Summer Reading Workshop went well and they received good feedback. SELS is putting together a puppet order. The catalog has been sent out and libraries can place their order. SELS is trying to do more joint purchases to save on shipping.

XII. Adjournment

The meeting was adjourned at 2:00 p.m.

Upcoming Board Meetings:

December 4, 2014 – Seward Memorial Library

Respectfully submitted by

Ruth Carlock, Secretary

Southeast Library System

Serving libraries in the counties
of:

Cass • Fillmore • Gage • Hamilton •
Jefferson • Johnson • Lancaster •
Nemaha • Otoe • Pawnee •
Richardson • Saline •
Seward • Thayer • York

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SoLiS is a publication of the Southeast Library System, and is issued once monthly. We reserve the right to screen and to edit all contributions.

December 2014

*"There's an old saying about those
who forget history. I don't
remember it, but it's good."*

-Stephen Colbert

Southeast Library System is a multi-type library network with 248 members offering a wide range of service in public, school, academic, institutional and private libraries (Membership list with populations from 2000 Census are on the SELS web page: www.selsne.org.) Membership includes 12 academic institutions, including the University of Nebraska-Lincoln, four private colleges, three community college campuses, a state college and a technical school. Fifty-four public libraries are system members. The majority of these libraries (34) serve populations fewer than 1,000. The system counts 146 school media centers among its members, 54 that are Lincoln Public Schools, with most of those belonging to Class 3 schools (population areas between 1,000 and 100,000). Fourteen of the school media centers are parochial. The system has 28 special and institutional members, most of which are located in Lancaster County.